

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 /126 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5237
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
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UNCLAS GENEVA 1115

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: UN, SHUM
SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION--ITEM 4 CCCUPIED TERRITORIES

REF: A. GENEVA 1023, B. STATE 32627

1. DISCUSSION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION CO-SPONSORED
BY CUBA, CYPRUS, INDIA, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, UGANDA,
UPPER VOLTA AND YUGOSLAVIA CONTINUED TWO MEETINGS
FEB 14 WITH VOTE AT P.M. MEETING FEB 15.
USREP (LOWENSTEIN) IN TWO STATEMENTS COMMENTED ON TEXT
OF RESOLUTION, EXPLAINING HIS INTENDED VOTE ON PARTS
A AND B, PER REF (B). HE OBJECTED THAT PART A
CONTAINED SOME EXTREME LANGUAGE AND STATED SOME
ALLEGATIONS AS IF THEY WERE FACTS, AND CONSTITUTED A
POLITICAL, NOT HUMANITARIAN, RESPONSE TO THE HUMAN
RIGHTS PROBLEM BEING CONSIDERED. HE CITED PARTICULARLY
STATEMENTS REFERRING TO "TORTURE" AND "WAR CRIMES"
AND ESTABLISHED IN A COLLOGUY THAT WORDING IN PART
A IS INTENDED TO BRAND ISRAEL AS AN "AGGRESSOR,"
A CONCLUSION HE SAID IT WAS INAPPROPRIATE FOR THE
HRC TO ADOPT. LOWENSTEIN STATED THAT BY ADOPTING PART A
THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WOULD ACT TO DIMINSH
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THE EFFECTIVENESS AND IMPACT OF PROPER ACTIONS IT
MIGHT TAKE ON HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS. HE ARGUED
THAT SUCH A POLEMICAL APPROACH TO HUMANITARIAN
QUESTIONS SHOULD BE REJECTED BY "NO" VOTES RATHER
THAN ABSTENTIONS.

2. A PRINCIPAL POINT WHIICH EMERGED FROM THE

DISCUSSION OF THE TEXT OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION
RELATED TO OPERATIVE PARA 12 (TEXT IN REF A)
UNDER WHICH THE ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE THIRTY-
FOURTH HRC SESSION WOULD HAVE A NEW TITLE, "QUESTION
OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED
ARAB TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PALESTINE." SEVERAL
DELEGATIONS QUERIED WHETHER THE INTENT BEHIND THIS
NEW TITLE WAS TO SUGGEST THAT THE VERY EXISTENCE OF
THE STATE OF ISRAEL WAS BEING CALLED INTO QUESTION
THROUGH THE IMPLICATION THAT THE STATE OF
PALESTINE WAS UNDER OCCUPATION.

3. PRIOR TO THE VOTE PAKISTAN, ONE OF THE
CO-SPONSORING DELEGATIONS, STATED THAT THE CO-
SPONSORS INTENDED THAT THE REFERENCE TO PALESTINE
IN PARA 12 SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD AS REFERRING TO
"A TERRITORY WHICH WILL FORM PART OF AN EVENTUAL
SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST."

4. ON THE MOTION OF PAKISTAN PART B WAS VOTED
ON FIRST AND ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS. IN THE VOTE ON
PART A ONLY OPERATIVE PARA 12 WAS VOTED ON
SEPARATELY, AT THE REQUEST OF LESOTHO. THIS PARA-
GRAPH WAS APPROVED 22-8(US, UK, URUGUAY, SWEDEN,
COSTA RICA, CANADA, ITALY, FRG)-2(ASUTRIA, LESOTHO).

5. IN A ROLL CALL VOTE PART A WAS ADOPTED
23-3(US, CANADA, COSTA RICA)-6(UK, URUGUAY, AUSTRIA,
FRG, ITALY, SWEDEN). CATTO
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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